Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended):   A method for regulating execution of a computer operation, comprising:

reading one or more parameters specified with the computer operation;

determining if the computer operation requires a plug-in and if not, executing the computer operation, wherein the at least one plug-in comprises an authorization plug-in;

if the computer operation requires at least one plug-in, filtering any required plug-in parameters from the one or more parameters specified with the computer operation;

determining whether all required plug-in parameters for the at least one plug-in have been specified;

terminating the at least one plug-in with failure if not all the required plug-in parameters have been specified;

executing the at least one plug-in if all the required plug-in parameters have been specified, comprising attempting to obtain authorization for executing the computer operation, wherein obtaining authorization includes checking to see whether a value of at least one required plug -in parameter matches a value of at least one authorization parameter, and wherein the at least one authorization parameter is generated using a license key generating tool, and

executing the computer operation if the at least one plug-in terminates with success, wherein the at least one plug-in regulates execution of the computer operation.

2.   (original):   The method of claim 1, wherein at least one plug-in requires at least one plug-in parameter.

3.   (original):   The method of claim 1, further comprising passing an error message to the computer operation indicating which of the required plug-in parameters have not been specified.

4.   (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising passing a data structure to the computer operation indicating which of the required plug-in parameters have not been specified.

5.   (original): The method of claim 4, further comprising prompting a user of the computer operation for the required plug-in parameters that had not been specified based on the data structure.

6.   (cancelled):

7.   (currently amended): The method of claim 6, 1 further comprising terminating the authorization plug-in with failure if authorization was not successfully obtained, thereby terminating the computer operation.

8.   (cancelled):

9.   (cancelled):

10.   (original): The method of claim 1, wherein executing at least one plug-in further comprises executing a notification plug-in.

11.   (original): The method of claim 10, further comprising determining whether all of the plug-in parameters required by the notification plug-in are specified before the computer operation and executing the notification plug-in after execution of the computer operation, whereby the computer operation is not executed if the notification plug-in terminates with failure after determining whether all of the plug-in parameters are specified.

12.   (original): The method of claim 10, wherein executing the notification plug-in further comprises notifying a party designated for notification.

13.   (currently amended): A computing device, comprising:
        means for receiving at least one specified computer operation parameter;
        at least one plug-in that performs a regulatory function and that terminates with either success or failure;
        means for operating the at least one plug-in a check mode; and
        means for operating the at least one plug-in in an execute mode,

wherein a computer operation will execute only if the at least one plug-in terminates with success, wherein at least one plug-in is authorization plug-in, and wherein the authorization plug-in links to a license key generation tool controlled by an authorization party so that the authorization plug-in grants authorization only if the system application is executed with a parameter specifying a license key generated by that tool.

14. (previously presented): The computing device of claim 13, wherein the computer operation determines which of the specified computer operation parameters is a plug-in parameter and passes all specified plug-in parameters to the at least one plug-in.

15. (previously presented): The computing device of claim 13, wherein the at least one plug-in requires at least one required plug-in parameter.

16. (previously presented): The computing device of claim 15, wherein the at least one plug-in determines whether any required plug-in parameters are among the specified plug-in parameters.

17. (previously presented): The computing device of claim 16, wherein the at least one plug-in has a check mode in which the plug-in is executed to only check for the at least one required plug-in parameter.

18. (previously presented): The computing device of claim 13, wherein the at least one plug-in has an execute mode in which the execute mode causes the plug-in to perform the regulatory function of the plug-in.

19. (previously presented): The computing device of claim 17, wherein the computer operation passes a mode flag to the at least one plug-in indicating whether to check for the at least one required plug-in parameter.

20. (previously presented): The computing device of claim 16, wherein the at least one plug-in generates at least one error message to be returned to the computer operation indicating that at least one required plug-in parameter was not specified.

21. (previously presented): The computing device of claim 16, wherein the at least one plug-in passes a data structure to the computer operation, whereby the data structure contains the plug-in parameters that were not specified.

22.   (previously presented):   The computing device of claim 16, wherein the computer operation prompts a user to enter at least one required parameter that was not specified.

23.   (cancelled):

24.   (cancelled):

25.   (currently amended):   The computing device of claim ~~23~~ 13, where the authorization plug-in determines if authorization is granted by querying an authorization server to see if the computer is authorized to perform the computer operation.

26.   (previously presented):   The computing device of claim 13, wherein at least one plug-in is a notification plug-in and has means for notifying a party that the computer operation has been executed.

27-32 (cancelled):